



# BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

Weather Language 天气成语

## Weather Language 天气成语

### A British Obsession 英国人迷恋的话题

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

British people are famous for always talking about the weather, but the weather also affects the way we speak and the phrases we use.

As more winter weather **batters** the UK, this week's Take Away demonstrates how the British obsession with weather has **influenced** our language.

The return of snowstorms to the UK proves that when it comes to bad weather **it never rains but it pours**.

The police have warned that unnecessary road travel is not recommended but some motorists have **thrown caution to the wind** and made their journeys anyway, claiming that it's all **a storm in a teacup**.

Those whose cars are stuck in the snow may consider themselves to be **twisting in the wind**.

There are problems too for local councils who are running out of sand and **grit** for the roads, having not saved enough supplies for a **rainy day**.

However it's an **ill wind that blows nobody any good** and **breakdown services** will be seeing an increase in business at this time of year.

And **every cloud has a silver lining** for **plumbers** too as the cold weather brings **burst** and frozen pipes in homes and businesses.

What has become apparent from the **cold snap** is that **seasonal weather forecasting** is not a precise science.

The UK **Meteorological Office predicted** that this winter would be mild and warm so the bad weather came like a **bolt from the blue**, defying predictions.

It's no wonder then that many people are feeling **under the weather** with flus and colds an ever-present danger, especially for the very old and very young.

The best thing to do then is to wrap up warm, stay at home and **weather the storm** and hopefully in a few weeks everything will be **as right as rain**.

## Glossary 词汇表

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>batters</b> (恶劣天气) 困扰   | <b>influenced</b> 影响                         |
| <b>it never rains but it pours</b> 祸不单行                            | <b>thrown caution to the wind</b> 冒险         |
| <b>a storm in teacup</b> 大惊小怪                                      | <b>twisting in the wind</b> 孤立无援             |
| <b>grit</b> 砂砾   | <b>rainy day</b> 艰难的时刻/困境                    |
| <b>ill wind that blows nobody any good</b> 有祸也有福/有人愁有人喜            | <b>breakdown services</b> (汽车) 救援服务          |
| <b>every cloud has a silver lining</b><br>(每一块乌云后面都有银色的一面) 困难中必有希望 | <b>plumbers</b> 管工                           |
| <b>burst</b> 爆开/裂开   | <b>cold snap</b> 寒流                          |
| <b>seasonal weather forecasting</b> 季节天气预告                         | <b>Meteorological Office predicted</b> 气象局预测 |
| <b>bolt from the blue</b> 突如其来的                                    | <b>under the weather</b> 身体不舒服               |
| <b>weather the storm</b> 渡过危机                                      | <b>as right as rain</b> 万事顺利                 |

### 1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

1. British people are well known for always talking about the weather.  
**True / False**
2. The UK is in the grip of a heatwave. **True / False**
3. The police have told people to abandon their cars in the snow.  
**True / False**
4. It is not easy to predict an entire season's weather. **True / False**
5. Certain illnesses are more common in winter. **True / False**

## 2. Weather Idioms Practice 天气成语练习

**Let's practise using some of the weather idioms from the reading text. Match the idiom to its definition in English.**

根据课文中出现的成语找出它们各自的定义。

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. a storm in teacup               | a. something coming as a complete surprise with no warning |
| 2. every cloud has a silver lining | b. fine and well   |
| 3. a bolt from the blue            | c. a trivial matter that has been exaggerated              |
| 4. as right as rain                | d. even bad situations have some good in them              |

**Now let's practise using those idioms by completing the sentences below using an idiom from the list above.**

现在请你从上述成语里选出合适的那个填入下面每句话的空格处。

1. Just take a couple of these pills and have an early night and you should be \_\_\_\_\_ in the morning.
2. I'm sorry you weren't accepted by a foreign university but \_\_\_\_\_. At least this way you'll be able to stay here with all your friends.
3. The news came as a \_\_\_\_\_. It was so unexpected.
4. Look, don't worry about this problem. It's a \_\_\_\_\_ - no big deal really.

### 3. Weather Forecast 天气预报

**Read this authentic BBC weather report. There are 10 mistakes. Can you spot them and correct them. Warning: this is not easy!**

下面是BBC的天气预报。我们加入了十个错误，看看你能不能识别出来，提示：不容易啊！

"Snow has falling again over the UK hitting southern England during the morning rush time.

The heaviest snow falls over the hills of western England and Wales. Central and southern England saw five to ten centimetres at lower levels and more under the hills.

During the night drivers were stranded in Devon and several major airports closed their runaways.

The snow is the result of warm moist air from the Atlantic colliding with the very cold air that has been sitting over the UK for weeks and will slowly move northern during the day.

As the warmer air continues it will push north and gradually introduce a thaw across the country.

Unfortunately that is unlikely to be the end of the snow as the next Atlantic system looks as though it will bring more snowing to the higher ground of northern Britain, with gales in the west by late in Friday and into Saturday.

Its not all bad news. Skiers in Scotland are having the best start to their season in ten years.

The Glenshee area have a full cover of snow and wouldn't normally expect this much snow until February, while the Cairngorm Mountain Range is reporting up to two metres of sleet."

#### 4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with weather vocabulary in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (→), vertically (↓) or diagonally (↘)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与天气词语有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的(→) 垂直的(↓) 或对角的(↘)形式出现。

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a | v | d | r | i | z | z | l | e | s | e | d |
| a | s | d | f | g | t | y | u | i | n | m | o |
| h | s | e | d | v | t | s | l | e | e | t | i |
| u | w | e | c | f | h | l | n | h | y | f | c |
| m | i | s | t | r | y | u | n | u | n | j | a |
| i | w | e | f | r | o | s | t | c | r | g | t |
| d | s | e | r | v | g | h | t | u | i | p | n |
| a | f | o | g | s | s | t | w | o | c | m | o |
| s | u | f | s | r | c | g | t | l | y | k | m |
| i | u | b | l | s | a | n | d | s | t | u | k |
| i | y | n | b | u | r | y | o | u | r | s | e |
| m | o | v | e | r | c | a | s | t | i | n | g |

|      |       |          |         |       |
|------|-------|----------|---------|-------|
| mist | fog   | sleet    | slush   | frost |
| sun  | humid | overcast | drizzle | icy   |

# Answers 答案

## 1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

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- British people are well known for always talking about the weather. **True**
- The UK is in the grip of a heatwave. **False**
- The police have told people to abandon their cars in the snow. **False**
- It is not easy to predict an entire season's weather. **True**
- Certain illnesses are more common in winter. **True**

## 3. Weather Forecast 天气预报

Snow has **fallen** again over the UK hitting southern England during the morning **rush hour**.

The heaviest snow fell over the hills of western England and Wales. Central and southern England saw five to ten centimetres at lower levels and more **over** the hills.

During the night drivers were stranded in Devon and several major airports closed their **runways**. The snow is the result of warm moist air from the Atlantic colliding with the very cold air that has been sitting over the UK for weeks and will slowly move **north** during the day.

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- c
- d
- a
- b

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- The news came as a **bolt out of the blue**. It was so unexpected.
- Look, don't worry about this problem. It's a **storm in a teacup** - no big deal really.

## 4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
|   |   | d | r | i | z | z | l | e |   |   |  |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
| h |   |   |   |   |   | s | l | e | e | t |  |
| u |   |   |   |   |   | l |   |   |   |   |  |
| m | i | s | t |   |   | u |   |   |   |   |  |
| i |   |   | f | r | o | s | t |   |   |   |  |
| d |   |   |   |   |   | h |   |   | i |   |  |
|   | f | o | g |   |   |   |   |   | c |   |  |
| s |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | y |   |  |
|   | u |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|   |   | n |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|   | o | v | e | r | c | a | s | t |   |   |  |